



The Musket

LEXINGTON HIGH SCHOOL'S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1969



Senior Destinations

The class of 2016 is graduating next month. Find out where they're headed next year!

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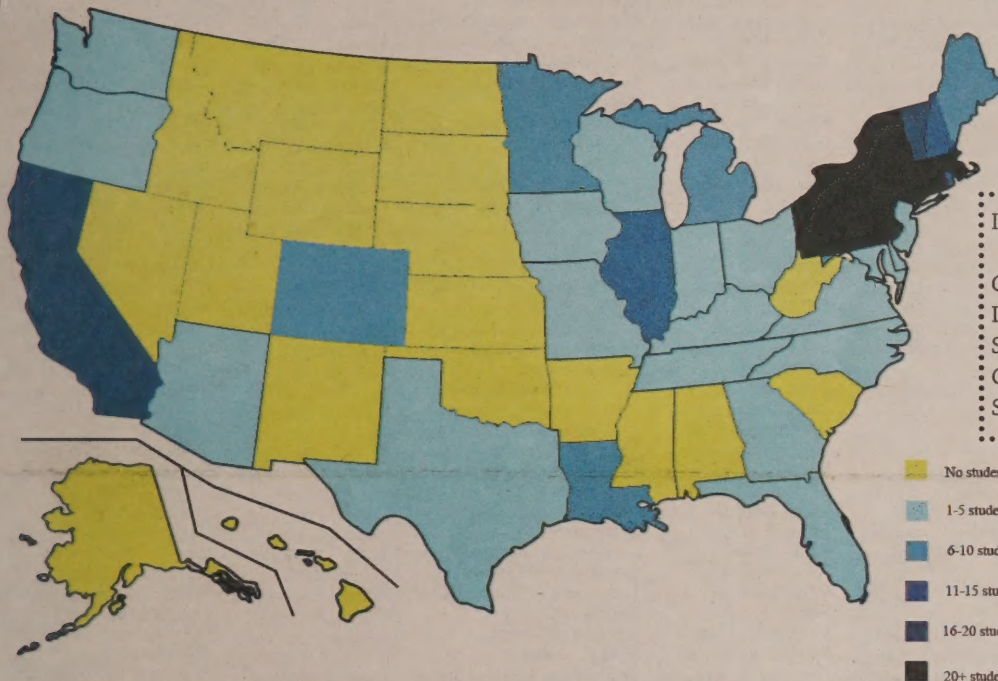
Secret Lives of Teachers

LHS faculty share the moments that made them feel like adults for the first time.

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Senior Destinations 2016



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LHS Abroad: Seniors discuss their decisions to attend international universities

Jack Schulz: NYU Shanghai

By Mandy Quan and Catherine Cheng, Editors

Next September, Jack Schulz will be attending New York University in Shanghai.

Schulz said he was first inspired to study internationally by his uncle, who taught him that a good economist has to look at the world through different perspectives.

"I think the best way to open myself up to new ideas is to experience a culture that contrasts with what I have been accustomed to," Schulz said.

Additionally, Schulz said he wants to be immersed in a new language.

"I want to be fluent in Mandarin. Not just high school or college fluent," Schulz said.

Shanghai's fast growing economy also offers many opportunities in Schulz's field of interest, economics.

"The school is literally in the heart of the financial district in Shanghai. I have amazing access to internships, a wealth of resources in research and flexibility," Schulz said.

Schulz also considered

schools closer to home, Cornell University being his first choice. While he was admitted, he said his visit to Shanghai during April break changed his mind.

"I always thought it was an interesting idea to go to international school, but it wasn't until I visited [Shanghai] that I fell in love with it," Schulz said.

Abe Laxague: McGill University

By Colin Cantwell and Ryan Leung, Editors

Abe Laxague will be attending McGill University in Montreal next year.

Laxague said he chose McGill over his second choice, the University of Edinburgh, for financial reasons. He said he was originally drawn to international

colleges overall for their relatively low tuition costs.

"The first thing that drew me to international schools was the affordability. Across the board they are much cheaper, and being presented such unique opportunities for such low prices was very intriguing to me," he said.

Laxague said he recom-

mends rising seniors at least consider international universities.

"Absolutely rising seniors should consider it!" Laxague said. "Studying abroad offers lower costs and opportunities to travel and experience different cultures, opportunities that may be more difficult to find later in life."

As a student of French, Laxague said he finds special value in studying in Montreal.

"I will be able to further my education of the French language by simply walking around Montreal. The idea of being so formally and informally educated is very exciting to me," he said.

Questions? Comments? E-mail us at musketnews@gmail.com

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Abe, Katherine
Abe, Karuna
Abrego, Jackie
Adamjee, Zaeem
Adley, Rykelle
Afshartous, Brian
Aguirre, Anthony
Ahmed, Zahin
Ahuja, Rahul
Akhian, Hovig
Akoad, Jumana
Akram, Kyre
AlBader, Iman
Alam, Zain
Albino, Chris
Ali Hassan, Alexander
Allen, Maddy
Amirault, David
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Anderson, Nicholas
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Arnow, Thomas
Atiyyat, Amer
Atwood, Emma
Auger, Corinne
Avery, Brigid
Ayala, Joanly
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Ballinger, Ian
Barbieri, Kyle
Barthelemy, Cyann
Beaulieu, Emily
Beinbrech, Mauro
Benghiat, Isaac
Benites, Andres
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Benskin, Javon
Benson, Mathew
Berlin, Joshua
Berman, Emma
Bernard Jr., Jarderle

Bernhard, Isabel
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Bernstein, Sarah
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Blackett, Caroline

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Chaput, Katrina
Chase, Courtney

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Ren, Anna
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Salcedo Cervino, Eyka
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Sanrame, Juliana
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Steinkrauss, Alicia
Stewart, Emma
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Tan, Nathaniel
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Tissera, Kristin
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University of Pittsburgh
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Vanderbilt University
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Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Yale University
Brown University
Harvard University

Class of 2016 Top 10 Destinations

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Editorial

Being an adult by learning through experience

As the class of 2016 graduates and embarks on new adventures, we are likely to encounter the daunting phrase “adulthood.” Whether the next step is college, the military, the workforce or traveling the world, we are on the brink of our first hint of independence as young adults. We have both exhilarating freedom and weighty responsibilities ahead of us; the balancing act will be tricky but rewarding. In short, we will soon be forced to learn “how to adult.”

Adulthood is certainly something to celebrate. Graduating seniors hold the key to unknown experiences and newfound opportunities. We can vote, drive and make our own decisions. Many of us have a lack of parental supervision in our futures. But while the power of autonomy can be thrilling, it must be accompanied by some basic adult knowledge.

“Basic adult knowledge” — if your reaction was a combination of panic and utter confusion, you’re not alone. Most of us do not know how to pay taxes; some of us are still learning how to do our own laundry. Luckily, our knowledge (or lack thereof) of how to perform these tasks does not restrict us from claiming our roles as adults.

So what exactly defines adulthood? According to Urban Dictionary, “Only when [one has] suffered enough to wipe out most of [his or her]

joyous spirits and innocence [is one] staid enough to be considered ‘adult.’” This definition is depressing at best, but there is some truth buried under the bleak surface.

Adulthood is about “suffering,” or, in a more positive light, experiencing. It is about making mistakes, not to “wipe out most of [our] joyous spirits and innocence,” but to build resilience and common sense.

Adulthood is about learning how to balance our recently discovered independence with a rapidly growing list of responsibilities, such as figuring out how to choose and pay for an apartment and how to feed ourselves in a sustainable manner.

Adulthood is about taking control of our own lives, making our own decisions and catching ourselves when we fall.

There are countless mistakes ahead of us, but with every mistake comes a lesson or at least a funny story. When faced with a fender bender or a cooking fiasco, a true adult will laugh it off and adapt for the next time.

So as we head on our separate paths towards “adulthood,” it is important to remember not to agonize over what lies ahead. Ultimately, adulthood cannot be defined by any one event or responsibility; rather, it is the accumulation of milestones and learning experiences that comprises our newfound independence.

Unsigned editorials reflect the opinion of the majority of the editorial board.



“It’s when I bought a real vacuum cleaner. It could clean carpet and had a filter, and you could roll the cord back in with the push of a button. It was a Kenmore, I think. Like from a vacuum store. I was 22.” — Zachary Del Nero, English teacher



“I think the first time I had to put the rent check in the mail, or maybe the first time I got excited to buy a household appliance.” — Andrew Baker, president of Lexington Education Association

secret life of teachers: when was the first moment you felt like an adult?

— photos and quotes compiled by Valerie Hsieh



“When I had my first apartment, when I lived on my own. I didn’t have to live with my parents, didn’t have to live in the dorms and I was earning my own money. There might have been other moments when I thought I was an adult, but that was the first time I really knew.” — Jennifer Wolfrum, health teacher



“When I was in college. I was more in control of my life. It just felt like I could make my own decisions for the first time.” — Lili Pan, Mandarin teacher



“I’m not convinced I am an adult yet.” — Andre Verner, math teacher

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